

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the Specification as follows:

On page 1 delete the first paragraph under title IMPROVED THICKENED BEVERAGES FOR DYSPHAGIA, and substitute therefore:

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is the United States national stage filing of PCT/US04/002795, filed January 31, 2004, which claims the individual and collective benefit of U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/444,079 filed January 31, 2003, U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/443,941 filed January 31, 2003, U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/444,080 filed January 31, 2003 and U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/444,082 filed January 31, 2003 each and all of which are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.